

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A technique for transferring money between a customer and a beneficiary comprises a financial institution, serving as a money-transfer company, a plurality of selling agents, paying agents and ATM (automatic teller machine) card distributors that communicate via a telephone network and/or the Internet. Selling agents distribute transaction cards to customers for use in initiating a money transfer to a particular beneficiary. A selling agent uses a transaction card to transmit a customer's request to the company, which creates a unique transaction record. The company returns a unique, secret fund pick-up ("folio") number to the customer. The customer discloses the folio number to the beneficiary, who collects the transferred money. Specifically, the beneficiary may obtain an ATM card from an ATM card distributor and use that card to collect the transferred funds at a conventional ATM.